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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, November 10, 1983 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended November 5 totaled an estimated 18.0 billion ton-miles, 12.7 percent above the corresponding period a year ago.

Cumulative volume for the first 44 weeks of 1983 was an estimated 704.6 billion ton-miles, 3.0 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended November 5 totaled 405,904 cars, 13.3 percent over 1982, and 0.5 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 16.1 percent in the East, 9.3 percent in the South and 14.0 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1982, 16 of the 21 commodity groups were up, with metallic ores showing an increase of 7,193 cars, or 62.1 percent; motor vehicles and equipment up 6,577 cars, or 51.0 percent; and nonmetallic minerals up 2,743 cars, or 31.0 percent. Thirteen of the 21 groups were down from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended October 29 totaled 51,905 cars, up 20.7 percent from the corresponding week of 1982, and 91,483 trailers and/or containers, 21.0 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 43 weeks of the year was 1,931,340 cars, 21.6 percent higher than last year, and 3,341,172 trailers and/or containers, up 18.7 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 11/5/83:

	Loadings in Week ended November 5, 1983		Change from Corresponding Week 1982			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	33,624	I	4,901	17.1	I	3,365	11.1
Other farm products	5,516	D	1,184	17.7	D	105	1.9
Metallic ores	18,779	I	7,193	62.1	I	1,057	6.0
Coal	113,357	I	5,203	4.8	I	3,834	3.5
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	11,211	I	1,462	15.0	D	8	0.1
Nonmetallic minerals	11,597	I	2,743	31.0	D	1,744	13.1
Grain mill products	10,939	D	997	8.4	D	493	0.4
Food and kindred products	11,985	D	1,424	10.6	D	253	2.1
Primary forest products	15,431	I	755	5.1	I	406	2.7
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,298	I	1,188	19.4	D	630	7.9
Pulp, paper and allied products	15,019	D	712	4.5	I	71	0.5
Chemicals and allied products	24,512	I	3,616	17.3	D	256	1.0
Petroleum products	4,900	I	338	7.4	I	155	3.3
Stone, clay and glass products	11,629	I	1,597	15.9	D	118	1.0
Coke	5,205	I	1,454	38.8	I	25	0.5
Metals and products	8,703	I	1,510	21.0	D	689	7.3
Motor vehicles and equipment	19,484	I	6,577	51.0	D	792	3.9
Waste and scrap materials	9,055	I	1,698	23.1	D	40	0.4
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	10,282	I	2,412	30.6	D	493	4.6
All other carloads	57,078	I	10,148	21.6	D	1,222	2.1
LCL traffic	300	D	782	72.3	I	38	14.5
Total Cars Loaded	405,904	I	47,696	13.3	I	2,108	0.5

Corresponding week of 1982 358,208

	1983	1982	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (44 weeks)	16,004,552	16,014,302	D 0.1

Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):

43 weeks ended October 29	686.6	668.1	I 2.8
Week ended November 5	18.0	16.0	I 12.7
44 weeks cumulative	704.6	684.1	I 3.0

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